

The Birmingham Eccentric's School Page

News appearing on these school pages has been gathered and written, for the most part, by journalistically-minded students of Birmingham, Bloomfield Hills and Troy Township schools.

Page 6 THE BIRMINGHAM ECCENTRIC November 22, 1950

Birmingham-Royal Oak Football Rivalry Dates Back to 1897

By BILL AIKENS

The oldest high school football rivalry in the state of Michigan will be continued tomorrow at 10:30 a. m. when, 54 years after their initial encounter in 1897, Birmingham and Royal Oak clash in the annual Turkey day classic, to be played at Pierce field.

For the 16 years following 1897, the teams met nearly every year in "wildcat" games, but in 1913 the game was placed on the official schedule of both schools for the first time. In the 1913 game, Birmingham tried its first forward pass, but unfortunately statistics fail to reveal whether or not it was completed.

In spite of these then-radical tactics, Birmingham lost this official sanctioned game 7-6, and four years passed before the Marples scored their victory in 1917, by a 17-7 score.

THE RECORD of all scheduled games played shows that Royal Oak has won 19, and Birmingham 12, while seven games have ended in ties, four of which were scoreless deadlocks. In these years, Royal Oak has led in total points with 274 to Birmingham's 164.

It was not until 1915 that the game was first played on Thanksgiving. In that year both teams, dissatisfied with the results of the regular game that season, agreed upon a second game to be played after the close of the season, on Thanksgiving day.

The date stuck, and has been the day for the big contest ever since. Around Birmingham the Turkey day game has become as traditional as the turkey himself.

Since 1913, only three years have passed when, due to unusual circumstances, the teams failed to meet. In 1914 the game was called off because one of the Royal Oak players, Harold Storz, later mayor of his city, was short in the abdomen.

NO GAMES WERE PLAYED in 1920 and 1921 because of the high enthusiasm of the students had taken to expressing itself through various channels, and the schedule was revamped to put an end to this destructiveness.

In 1924 Miss Eva More, then adviser of "The Acorn", Royal Oak school paper, conceived the idea of a "little brown jug" to be awarded to the winning team as a trophy.

This idea was presented to both schools and was received with great enthusiasm. The next year the original jug was presented to the H-Y club of Birmingham by Jack Henry of Royal Oak, and it has remained a prized trophy ever since.

BARNUM JUNIOR HIGH NEWS

Barnum's eighth grade football team completed its six-game schedule Nov. 8, with a hard fought 6-6 tie with a powerful Royal Oak aggregation.

The game was played on a muddy Pierce field which slowed down the offense of both teams; however, the tackling was extremely hard on the part of both squads. The half ended with no score for either team.

Royal Oak scored late in the third quarter on a brilliant punt returned by Mullins, who went 70 yards for the touchdown. The extra point attempt failed.

BARNUM STARTED its touch-down drive late in the last period with captain Tom Beck, Marvin Green, Larry Hanifan, and Dick Morgan, doing the ball carrying. The drive covered 50 yards with Green going over for the score with a scant four seconds remaining in the contest. It was the fifth touchdown of the season for Green, Barnum's 160-pound full back.

The eighth grade squad ended its six-game schedule with 3 wins, 1 tie, and 2 defeats. The losses came early in the season, by narrow margins, while the wins were over Oak Ridge twice and Royal Oak. It is the first time Barnum has had an eighth grade squad and the boys participating seemed to have gained much valuable experience as fundamentals were stressed.

THIS YEAR THERE is a slight variation in the pre-Thanksgiving program. The student council has rented a film which will be shown in the Barnum gym for the seventh grade. The eighth and ninth grade

success, due mainly to a large line which blocked better with every game played.

Coach Hugh Loveland was assisted by Pete Landino, former Baldwin fullback, who worked with the backfield. Awards will be presented to the team at an assembly later in the fall.

LAST THURSDAY, Barnum's eighth and ninth graders saw Carl and Cook, international table tennis champions in a paid assembly. They demonstrated several trick shots and challenged members of the audience to a game.

The dance was sponsored by the seventh grade parents, and the following were chaperons: Mr. and Mrs. N. F. Hadley, Mr. and Mrs. Frank Cooper, Mr. and Mrs. Kyker, Mr. and Mrs. Lester Stinson, Mr. and Mrs. Claude Morrow, Mr. and Mrs. H. Wentworth, J. E. Howell, Mrs. Ed Deer and Mrs. J. R. Buchanan. About 175 students attended.

THIS WEEK'S PTA-APPROVED MOVIE

This week's PTA approved movie is "Devil's Doorway," starring Robert Taylor. The film is a western and will be shown at the Saturday matinee at the Bloomfield Theater.

will attend the local theatre as in previous years. The second card marking ends Dec. 1.

Thanksgiving Game Half-time Program Prepared by Band

By Barb Averill

Having completed a tedious week of variety shows, the Birmingham marching band, directed by Arnold Bennett, will perform the band pageant, "Frontier Days" between halves of the Royal Oak-Birmingham game tomorrow.

A turkey hunt is the main theme for this annual Thanksgiving ball. Many formations, led by drum major Sarah Reed, are planned.

The Royal Oak band will also participate in the half time program with a standard American Thanksgiving day program.

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Letters Presented To Crane Athletes

At a special assembly of the Cranbrook school student body last Wednesday morning, varsity athletic letters were awarded in football, soccer and cross-country to 37 players.

Coaches Hubert Davis, Wayne Lawrence and Paul Thompson, athletic director, spoke concerning their respective seasons while Headmaster Harry D. Hoey awarded the letters.

AT THIS ASSEMBLY, it was announced that Charles Carter of Birmingham, has been elected Cranbrook's varsity soccer captain for the past season. Chuck, who was acting captain for six of the eight games, did a fine job of leading a team which had only one returning letterman. He was a spark of the squad in his position of center-halfback.

Duncan Patten was elected captain of the football squad for the 1951-52 season. He earned this honor for his outstanding work and play on this year's varsity team.

Other Birmingham boys receiving football letters included Frank Marcan, Dan Newey, John Harlan, Jack Knoblock and Virgil Exner. Soccer letter-winners were Peter Hatt and James Paterson of Birmingham.

Annual Drumstick Ball This Saturday

Club DJR will present its 18th annual Drumstick ball this Saturday, Nov. 25, at the Birmingham Community house from 9 to 12:30.

The club has secured the nice piece of land of Ervin Nichols, one of the best in upper Detroit. Nichols has played for many years at Wayne.

A large crowd is expected for this traditional dance, one of the biggest and best of the year. Mr. Maloney heads the dance committee.

Photos must be submitted noon each Friday to insure publication the following Thursday.

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Here are a few of the 43 new "Look Ahead" features in the '51 FORD

New "Safety Glow" Control Panel... The new design places all controls literally at the driver's fingertips. New "Chancellor" Instrument Cluster is easily visible at night without being distracting. New "Glow-Grip" Controls are individually illuminated... a Ford exclusive!

New "Luxury Lounge" interior... with new long-wearing Fordcraft upholstery fabrics, new harmonizing appointments, smart new colors, new "Colorblend" Carpeting—the '51 Ford's new "Lounge Lounge" interior is "decorative designed" for the years ahead. Interior colors and new Fordcraft Fabrics are "Color-Koted" to outlast body colors!

New Automatic Posture Control... moves front seat forward automatically at release of lever, raises it for shorter drivers. Push seat back, it lowers automatically for taller drivers.

Automatic Mileage Maker... saves gas automatically. New Waterproof Ignition System, including new synthetic rubber spark plug boots, prevents engine being shorted out by moisture.

31 FORD

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